

1. (Currently Amended) A water equipment attachment apparatus,
comprising in combination:

a rigid hollow vertical tube for extending below or into a selected surface of a containing structure of a contained body of water including a liner made of a flexible material, wherein the rigid hollow vertical tube includes an attachment member extending beyond a top of the rigid hollow vertical tube for engaging the selected surface of the containing structure of the contained body of water underneath the liner and wherein the attachment member includes a plurality attachment receptacles therein;

a gasket having an opening therein for engaging the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the gasket is placed over the liner to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachments openings therein;

a cap having an opening therein for engaging the gasket and for attaching to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the cap is placed over the gasket to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, thereby providing a water-tight connection and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachment openings therein;

a plurality of attachment means for attaching the cap and gasket to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube through the plurality of attachment openings in the cap and the gasket and into the

plurality of attachment receptacles in the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube; **and**

~~one or more~~ a first horizontal attachment means extending from a first side and a second side of the rigid hollow vertical tube at a first position for attaching the rigid hollow vertical tube to the selected surface of the containing structure of the contained body of water; **and**

a second horizontal attachment means extending from a first side and a second side of the rigid hollow vertical tube at a second position for attaching the rigid hollow vertical tube to the selected surface of the containing structure of the contained body of water.

2. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the rigid hollow vertical tube comprises metal, plastic or composite material.

3. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the gasket comprises a rubber, cork or composite material.

4. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the cap comprises a flat or a contoured cap.

5. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the plurality of attachment means includes screws, bolts, rivets or pins.

6. (Current Amended) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the ~~one or more~~ first or second horizontal attachment means include ~~one or more~~ horizontal attachment means that extend through the rigid hollow vertical tube in pre-drilled holes for the ~~one or~~ more attachment means.

7. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means includes one or more horizontal attachment means that do not extend through the rigid hollow vertical tube.

8. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the liner is a vinyl liner.

9. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the containing structure comprises a plurality of attachable panels.

10. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means are sized and dimensioned to attach to the selected surface of the containing structure of the contained body of water.

11. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the contained body of water includes a swimming pool, fountain spa, whirlpool, or decorative pond.

12. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the water equipment attachment apparatus is attached through the liner to a top wall, a side wall or a bottom of the containing structure of the contained body of water.

13. (Currently Amended) A swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus, comprising in combination:

a rigid hollow vertical tube for extending below or into a selected surface of a wall of a swimming pool including a vinyl liner, wherein the rigid hollow vertical tube includes an attachment member extending beyond a top of the rigid hollow vertical tube for engaging the selected surface of the wall of the swimming pool underneath the liner and wherein the attachment member includes a plurality attachment receptacles therein;

a gasket having an opening therein for engaging the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the gasket is placed over the liner to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachment openings therein;

a cap having an opening therein for engaging the gasket and for attaching to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the cap is placed over the gasket to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, thereby providing a water-tight connection and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachment openings therein;

a plurality of attachment means for attaching the cap and gasket to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube through the plurality of attachment openings in the cap and the gasket and into the plurality of attachment receptacles in the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube; and

one or more horizontal attachment means extending from a first side and a second side of the rigid hollow vertical tube for attaching the rigid hollow vertical tube to the selected surface of the wall of the swimming pool, **wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means extend through the rigid hollow vertical tube in pre-drilled holes.**

14. (Original) The swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the rigid hollow vertical tubes comprises metal, plastic or composite material.

15. (Original) The swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the gasket comprises a rubber, cork or composite material.

16. (Original) The swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the cap comprises a flat or a contoured cap.

17. (Original) The swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the plurality of attachment means includes screws, bolts, rivets or pins.

18. (Currently Amended) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means include one or more horizontal attachment means that extend through the rigid hollow vertical tube in pre-drilled holes for the one or more attachment means **in any position on rigid hollow vertical tube.**

19. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means include one or more horizontal attachment means that do not extend through the rigid hollow vertical tube.

20. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the wall comprises a plurality of attachable panels.

21. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the water equipment attachment apparatus is attached to a top wall, a side wall or a bottom of the swimming pool.

22. (Original) The water equipment attachment apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means are sized and dimensioned to attach to the walls or bottom of the swimming pool.

23. (Original) A swimming pool equipment attachment apparatus, comprising in combination:

a rigid hollow vertical tube for extending below or into a selected surface of a wall of a swimming pool including a vinyl liner, wherein the rigid hollow vertical tube includes an attachment member extending beyond a top of the rigid hollow vertical tube for engaging the selected surface of the wall of the swimming pool underneath the liner and wherein the attachment

member includes a plurality attachment receptacles therein and wherein the wall of the swimming pool includes a plurality of attachable panels;

a gasket having an opening therein for engaging the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the gasket is placed over the liner to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachment openings therein;

a cap having an opening therein for engaging the gasket and for attaching to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, wherein the cap is placed over the gasket to engage the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube, thereby providing a water-tight connection and wherein the gasket includes a plurality of attachment openings therein;

a plurality of attachment means for attaching the cap and gasket to the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube through the plurality of attachment openings in the cap and the gasket and into the plurality of attachment receptacles in the attachment member of the rigid hollow vertical tube; and

one or more horizontal attachment means sized and dimensioned to attach to walls of the swimming pool, wherein the one or more horizontal attachment means are sized and dimensioned to attach to the plurality of attachable panels used for the wall of the swimming pool.